

NEWS RELEASE

OFFICE OF THE UNITED STATES ATTORNEY WESTERN DISTRICT OF MISSOURI

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KANSAS CITY, MO., MAN CHARGED WITH PASSING COUNTERFEIT BILLS AT COLUMBIA, MO., POLICE STATION

JEFFERSON CITY, Mo. – Todd P. Graves, United States Attorney for the Western District of Missouri, announced that a Kansas City, Mo., man was indicted by a federal grand jury today for passing counterfeit \$100 bills at the Columbia, Mo., Police Department.

Andrew Joseph Wieschhaus, 24, of Kansas City, Mo., was charged in an indictment returned today by a federal grand jury meeting in Jefferson City. The indictment alleges that Wieschhaus, with the intent to defraud, passed five counterfeit \$100 bills, which he knew to be counterfeit, to a community service aide at the Columbia, Mo., Police Department. According to the indictment, Wieschhaus offered the counterfeit bills as bond for a charge pending against him in Boone County Municipal Court in Columbia, Mo.

According to an affidavit filed in support of the original federal criminal complaint filed against **Wieschhaus** on October 2, 2002, **Wieschhaus** passed the counterfeit bills at the front desk of the Columbia, Mo., Police Department on September 25, 2002. **Wieschhaus** allegedly used the counterfeit money to post bond for his failure to appear for a municipal warrant, Graves said. Today's indictment replaces that federal criminal complaint.

Graves cautioned that the charges contained in the indictment are simply accusations, and are not evidence of guilt. Evidence supporting the charges must be presented to a federal trial jury, whose duty is to determine guilt or innocence.

The case is being prosecuted by Assistant U.S. Attorney Lawrence E. Miller.It was investigated by the U.S. Secret Service and the Columbia, Mo., Police Department.

This news release, as well as additional information about the office of the United States Attorney for the Western District of Missouri, is available on-line at www.usdoj.gov/usao/mow